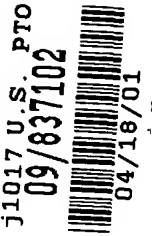


S/N Filed Herewith

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	NOBUHARA et al.	Examiner:	Unknown
Serial No.:	Filed Herewith	Group Art Unit:	Unknown
Filed:	Filed herewith	Docket No.:	13409.3US01
Title:	FILTER CARTRIDGE AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE SAME		



CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

'Express Mail' mailing label number: EL815538393US  
Date of Deposit: April 18, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service 'Express Mail Post Office To Addressee' service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By: Yolanda Gray  
Name: Yolanda Gray

*Handwritten initials and date:*  
H  
G  
8/12/01

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b))

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not

represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

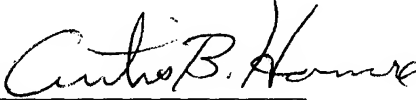
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Dated: April 18, 2001

By   
Curtis B. Hamre  
Reg. No. 29,165

CBH/kas